Repent and be Converted.

Acts 3: 19.

Science has demonstrated that Earth, the planet in which we live, is but one of the many belonging to the great Solar system, which, when composed with the others, and the great universe of nature, sinks into insignificance, and is as a drop compared to the ocean. But it is the only one that we *know* to be inhabited by intelligent creatures. And when we contemplate the marvelous works of nature, in the light of science, we are lost in amazement and conclude there must be a great Supreme Intelligence, the Creator and upholder and preserver of all things.

But it is from the Bible alone, which we hold to be a revelation of the divine mind that we get anything like an intelligent understanding of the origin and destiny of all things, and the relation they sustain to the great Originator. This book teaches us that "the worlds were made by Christ and that without him was not anything made that was made;" and that man, who was made a little lower than the angels, but a little higher than the animals, the connecting link between them, was to have his home in this earth. To have dominion over it, serving, honoring and revering his Maker. Perfect happiness and endless life was to be his portion forever.

For reasons best known to God, the tempter was permited to enter man's happy abode. He, by falsehood, deceived and led our first parents to disobey God's commands and thus having sinned, disease and death followed as the penalty of violated law. In this fallen, miserable and helpless state, God pitied and loved him so much that He sent Jesus Christ, his beloved Son, to die—to give His life and blood to redeem us from sin, and open a way through which return to God's favor and reconciliation may be effected. God's part of the work of man's salvation has long since been completed in the gifts of His Son, the Holy Spirit and the gospel.

The Gospel teaches us what man's part of the work is, and if he is lost it will be because he is not willing to do what is necessary on his part to be done in order to have salvation.

Prominently among the conditions of salvation, as taught in the gospel, are those in our text; viz., "Repentance and conversion." They are not the same, but very closely connected, so closely that a true conversion is sure to immediately follow a thorough evangelical repentance. The original of the English verb "Repent" is *metnoeo*, and signifies "a turning away from." A knowledge of the truth, begets faith, faith begets godly sorrow, godly sorrow works repentance toward God and from dead works. The verb to convert is derived from the Greek *epistrepho* and signifies "to turn to" hence in order to be converted when one turns "from" sin he must turn "to" righteousness, *from* satan *to* God, *from* darkness *unto* light. Repentance is *ceasing* to do evil, and *learning* to do well.

Repentance and conversion, taken together implies a reformation, a complete change *from* a life of disobedience and sin, *to* a life of obedience and holiness, a change of sentiment condition, state, relation etc., correct knowledge changes the sentiment, and produces faith; faith changes the heart; repentance changes the life; conversion changes the relation. Baptism is the first act of obedience required by the Gospel of him who turns from sin to the service of the true and living God. The sinner, having now been "justified *by faith*, has peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," and should ever after "walk in newness of life," "growing in grace and the knowledge of the truth," "always abounding in the work of the Lord." "In as much as he knows that his labor is not in vain in the Lord, he does not become weary in well doing, but continues instant in it ever looking unto Jesus who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right of the majesty on high, from whence He will come to receive us unto himself, that where He is there we may be also, and so ever be with the Lord."

Beloved brethren, now are we the children of God, and it *does not yet* appear what we shall be; but *we know* that He shall appear we shall be like *Him* for we shall see Him as He is.

J. A. RIDENOUR.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

Mother and Child.

Love thy mother, little one,
Kiss and clasp her neck again;
Hereafter she may have a son,
Will kiss and clasp her neck in vain.
Love thy mother, little one.

Gaze upon her living eyes,
And mirror back her love for thee;
Hereafter thou may'st shudder sighs.
To meet them when they cannot see.
Gaze upon her living eyes.

Press her lips the while they glow,
With love that they have often told;
Hereafter thou may'st press in woe,
And kiss them till thine own are cold.
Press her lips the while they glow.

Oh, ravere her raven hair,
Although it be not silver gray;
Too early, death, led on by care,
May snatch save one dear lock away.
Oh, ravere her raven hair.

Pray for her at eve and morn,
That heaven may long the stroke defer;
For thou may'st live the hour forlorn,
When thou wilt ask to die with her,
Pray for her at eve and morn.

Selected by
JENNIE E. BAUMAN.

Morrill, Kans.

DEAR EDITOR:—It has been some time since I wrote for the Children's column. I am very fond of reading the children's letters. Bro. Bashor returned from Indiana on New Years day. We were all glad to see him again. He has gained considerably in health, since he left home. He speaks well of Indiana. Bro. Bashor preached today, at Enon Chapel, and to-night Bro. E. S. Miller, of Dayton, O., preaches. Bro. Bashor preached a very good and interesting sermon to-day. I go to school. My teacher's name is B. Crownover. I will close by asking a question. Where is the word screech-owl found in the Bible? I hope this will escape the waste basket.

GRACIE SAYLOR.

Waterloo, Iowa.

DEAR EDITOR:—I thought I would write a letter to the Children's column. It is my first attempt. I am nine years old. I went to school every day, until the Holidays. Since the Holidays I have been sick, but I expect to start to school in a few days. My studies are Arithmetic, Writing, Reading, Spelling, Geography and Grammar. My teacher's name is Miss Alice Van Buskerk. My father and mother belong to the Brethren church. I have one sister and one brother. My father takes the EVANGELIST. We have preaching every two weeks, by Rev. J. M. Rittgers. I will close by asking a question. Where in the Bible, do we find a riddle?

GEORGE C. CARPENTER.

South Bend, Ind.

DEAR EDITOR:—This is my first attempt to write for the Children's column. I am eleven years old. I go to school every day. My teacher's name is W. W. Garver, and I like him very much. I have five sisters and two brothers. I used to see letters in the paper from uncle Joe, but I have not seen any for a good while, and I don't hear any thing any more about our Band of Hope. I am getting quite discouraged, to think that he has forgotten us. We would like to hear from him some time. I will close for this time, but I may write soon again. Yours truly,

ADDA MCFADDEN.

Lattasburg, O.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have not written to you for a long time. I have a bad cold, and am not going to school. I see the other letters in your paper tell about their Christmas trees,—now I will tell about our tree. We had the treat put on in decorated packages:—balls of pop-corn and oranges. It did not fall over like Mary Shoe said their's did, but grandma Sterling knocked some things off with her head. We had a nice time. We had a nice tree at home for brother Voigt, as he could not go. His eye sight is very bad. It looks so sad to see him feeling around for his playthings. All we can do is to hope and pray for his sight and health. Papa has gone to Illinois. We are all very lonesome without him. Brother Walter and his wife stay with us while he is gone. Well, I will close for this time, by asking a question. Where is snow first mentioned in the Bible? I will answer Sadie Harrison's question. Where is the word silver first mentioned in the Bible? Genesis, 13th chapter, 2d verse. Yours truly,

ESTELLA C. STERLING.

Masontown, Pa.

DEAR EDITOR:—I like to read the little letters, written by the little folks, so I will write again. It snowed and blowed, until the roads were drifted shut, so I could not go to school, so I stayed at home three days. I wish to get all the education I can, so that I can teach school when I get older, if I should desire. I got a book for a Christmas gift. It is about dear, old stories told once more. It has good reading in it, and has Bible stories in it. I will close for this time. Good-bye,

IVA STUTZMAN.

Elkhart, Ind.

DEAR EDITOR:—I am a little girl, five years old. I never went to school, and I can't write, but I can print some. I hope you can read it. I am well, and hope you are too. Good-bye,

ELSIE SUMMERS.

Little Pet: You are the youngest of all the many dear little children who have written to us. Yes, we are able to read your "print"; but we are afraid you cannot read our print. Thanks for the letter, Elsie.

OUR DEAD.

WARNER.—Johnnie Warner son of David and Selena Warner, departed this life, Jan. 3rd, 1887, age 1 year, 3 months and 17 days. Funeral services by J. H. PALMER.

LATSHAW.—At Cambria, Ind., Dec. 25, 1886, Sister Emma Latshaw, aged, 29 years, 8 months and 4 days. She leaves a husband and two sons, father. mother, brothers and sisters to mourn their loss. Sister Latshaw united with the Brethren church in August of 1886, and was baptized by Bro. R. F. Mallott. Sister Latshaw expressed a willingness to die, and just before she passed away she called for the Gospel Hymn book and sang hymn No. 4 with all the clearness of health, after which she exorted her friends to meet her in glory, and closed her eyes in death to awake in the arms of Jesus. Funeral services by J. M. Rittgers to a large concourse of people.

NEHR.—In Clinton Co., Ind., Jan. 3rd, 1887, John H. Nehr, age 81 years, and 10 days, Brother Nehr was a member of the Brethren church and died in the triumphs of a living faith. He leaves nine children to mourn their loss. Funeral services by the writer

J. M. RITTGERS.

GONE HOME TO REST.—While engaged in work the sad news came, Sister Schiendel will be buried Tuesday. Then I knew another aged saint had gone home to rest forever. Bro. Cost, the family's old friend will no doubt write a fitting notice of her, but I felt like placing a little flower on her grave.

Sister Schiendel was patient in her affliction and was looking forward to the time of moving. Even when suffering she was thoughtful of others and the writer has practical evidence of her kindness. On Christmas day we gathered around the same table, and enjoyed each others society, and now she has left the earthly circle and joined the home circle of heaven, made up of loved ones and redeemed ones.

Father Schiendel, you have not lost your companion; children you have not lost your mother, she has only gone home, you can follow her. May God comfort you and keep you.

JOHN DUKE MCFADDEN.

NUNAMAKER.—Daughter of Brother and Sister Nunamaker, of Spring Mills, Ind. Little Rosa had not reached the age of accountability before God, and therefore we know that she has passed on to Him who has said, suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of God. Funeral by

J. M. RITTGERS.

SHINDEL.—Sister Magdalene Shindel died January 15th, 1887, aged 69years, 8 months and 2 days, and was buried on the 18th, in the Beaver Creek, Md., Brethren graveyard. She had been sick for more than seven years, but bore her affliction as a faithful child of God, and during all this time she remembered the poor and made the hearts of many needy people rejoice. She leaves a very kind husband, (David Shindel) three sons, and five daughters to mourn the great loss, which is her eternal gain. The funeral was attended by a very large concourse of friends and neighbors. Funeral text, 2. Timothy, 4: 6, 7, 8. By Andrew Cost, assisted by Bro. I. D. Bowman.

A. C.

Meddle not with him that flatter thee with his lips.

The cheek is apter than the tongue to tell an errand.

People flatter us, because they can depend on our credulity.

It destroys the thread of life if wild oats are sowed with it.

The truely honest man is he who sets no value on himself.

In order to judge of another's feelings, remember your own.